

Estimated salaries of 53 Teachers for two terms	\$9,540 00
“ incidental expenses, . . . . .	1,000 00
“ total expenses for two terms, . . . . .	<u>\$10,540 00</u>
“ bal. after paying expenses of two terms,	\$2,305 67
To this amount add the Free School Fund, . . . . .	<u>3,601 75</u>

Estimated bal. after adding Free School Fund, \$5,907 42

If this Free School Fund is permanent, the School can be continued three terms with the present income.

The Board has resolved to build, early in the Spring of 1866, ten School Houses, two in each Commissioner's District; to do this the County levy has been withdrawn from the general School Fund, and made the basis of a School House Fund to which such additions will be made as the Board can afford to make.

The first duty of the Board is to construct good, comfortable, and convenient houses adapted to school-work, and furnish them with good desks and other appropriate furniture. The Board hopes to be able to build annually several houses, and in a few years to supply to every district a neat, comfortable, well built School House, furnished with black-boards, outline maps, and other educational apparatus.

The Schools are suffering greatly in consequence of the impossibility of obtaining good and efficient Teachers. The salaries the Board can offer will not induce good Teachers to come from abroad, and until the Normal School can supply home Teachers, I suppose this difficulty will be felt to a greater or less extent.

I think the system will work well. A larger appropriation should be made, so as to secure money enough to continue the Schools throughout the year. There are two amendments or additions I would like to see made. 1st. The County levy made permanent, until the value of the property of the State increases sufficiently to give us enough funds to continue the schools four terms

2nd. Authorize and compel the County Commissioners of each County to levy a sum every year to build and furnish School Houses. I would suggest that a greater number of Commissioners be appointed for this County. I think a more active supervision of the work will be secured by increasing the number. The County is large, and the Commissioners cannot visit the Schools as often as is necessary, without too much neglecting their private duties. I would not assign any district to the special care of the President of the Board. In the large counties he has work enough; and frequently the care of his own district interferes with his other duties.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.

E. F. SMITHERS,

*President, Board of School Commissioners,  
Dorchester County.*